



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
COMMERCE COMMITTEE

February 17, 2009

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local governments - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

CCM supports the following bills:

- **Raised Senate Bill 885 "An Act Concerning the Tax Incremental Financing Program"** which would eliminate the sunset for this program. Tax incremental financing has proven to be an effective alternative method to finance needed projects and the program should be retained. Eliminating the sunset currently included in the statutes would do just that.
- **Committee Bill 5921 "An Act Concerning the Retention of Businesses in Municipalities"** which would require notification to be made to municipal leaders if the Department of Economic and Community Development or the Connecticut Development Authority are negotiating and financial incentives with a business that may result in such business relocating to another municipality. Such notification will keep municipal officials involved with the discussions with businesses that currently contribute to their community.

CCM urges the committee favorably report these bills.

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If you have any questions, please contact Kachina Walsh-Weaver, Senior Legislative Associate of CCM via email kweaver@ccm-ct.org or via phone (203) 498-3026.